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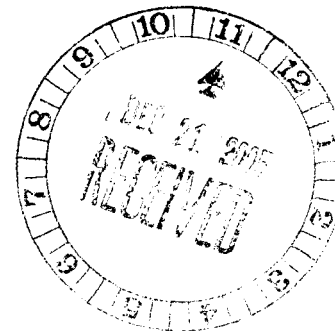
# SIDNEY STRICKLAND AND ASSOCIATES, PLLC

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December 21, 2005

Honorable Vernon A. Williams  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001



**Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 408X); BNSF Railway Company --Abandonment  
Exemption-- in Hamilton and Merrick Counties, NE.**

Dear Secretary Williams:

BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F--Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 15.60-mile line of railroad between BNSF milepost 1.90, near Aurora, and milepost 17.50, near Central City, in Hamilton and Merrick Counties, NE. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on March 22, 2004 (69 FR 13349-50). The exemption became effective on May 31, 2004.

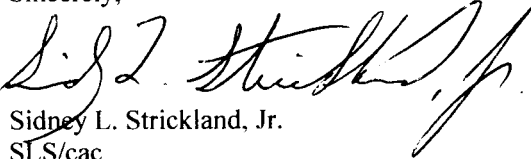
By decision served March 7, 2005, the Board granted BNSF's request for an extension of time for filing its notice of consummation until December 31, 2005. Winter weather conditions have hampered salvage activities. Accordingly, BNSF is requesting an extension of the consummation date until July 1, 2006.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 295-4024.

Sincerely,



Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.  
SLS/cac

cc: James Gallegos  
Jerry Johnson  
Richard Batie  
Dalen Wintermute

OFFICE